

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-87 stand subject to a twelve-way restriction requirement under 35 USC §121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-9, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer wherein the patient is negative for CIN III, classified in class 435, subclass 91.2.
- II. Claims 10-15, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer, classified in class 536, subclass 24.33.
- III. Claims 16-20, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer for amplification of HPV16 sequence and another HPV selected from HPV18, HPV31, HPV33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV55, classified in class 435, subclass 91.33.
- IV. Claims 21-32, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer with a specific probe, and a second probe, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

V. Claims 33-41, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer with specific probe to HPV16 and a second probe for HPV18, HPV31, HPV33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV55, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

VI. Claims 42-50, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer with specific probe to HPV18, HPV31, HPV33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV55, in addition to second probe HPV18, HPV31, HPV33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV55, classified in class 435, subclass 6., classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

VII. Claims 51-56, drawn to a method of treating a patient with antisense, classified in class 536, subclass 24.5.

VIII. Claims 57-63, drawn to a method of treating a patient with an agent, classified in class 530, subclass 300.

IX. Claims 64-68, drawn to a method of treating a patient with an agent, classified in class 435, subclass 345.

- X. Claims 69-75, drawn to a method of treating a patient with a recombinant vector, classified in class 435, subclass 320.1
- XI. Claims 76-79, drawn to a kit for screening a patient for cancer, classified in class 435, subclass 975.

- XII. Claims 80-87, drawn to a composition for treating a patient for cancer, classified in class 435, subclass 186.1.

Election of Invention by applicants

The applicants respectfully elect with traverse the following invention:

Group III. Claims 16-20, drawn to a method of screening a patient for cancer for amplification of HPV16 sequence and another HPV selected from HPV18, HPV31, HPV33, HPV35, HPV45, HPV55, classified in class 435, subclass 91.33.

Claims 1-15 and 21-87 are hereby canceled with applicants reserving the right to prosecute the subject matter of claims 1-15 and 21-87 in a divisional application.

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, prompt allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

If it would be of assistance in resolving any issues in this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicants' attorney Mark Gilbreth, or agent Mary Gilbreth, at (713) 667-1200.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary A. Gilbreth, Ph.D.
USPTO Reg. No. 45,775
Agent for Applicants

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

GILBRETH & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
P.O. BOX 2428
BELLARE, TX - 77402-2428
T (713) 667-1200
F (713) 667-4424